

About 50 people attended the meeting to review the single schematic design for the Japanese Garden Entry. Seattle Parks and Recreation staff from the garden, planning and design, and maintenance attended the meeting, along with Arboretum Foundation, Unit 86, Japanese Garden Foundation, and University of Washington. Hoshide Williams Architects used drawings and a model to describe the entry gate project and Nakano Associates described proposed landscape improvements.

- More than 50 honored at today's Japanese Garden Volunteer appreciation luncheon
- How to access meeting room?
 - Through double doors in courtyard and in garden
 - A small courtyard will be north of meeting room
- Why is gift shop only accessed from garden?
 - only people at garden are likely to make a purchase
 - gift shop volunteer needs security
- Materials choices – similar to tea house
 - Stucco walls/ochre color
 - Medium to dark wood cedar and fir
 - Slope and scale of building roofs similar to tea house
- Bathroom access is only outside garden cannot be in limited space of garden
 - Bathroom art of entry courtyard, especially for tour bus
 - Japanese gardens in Japan do not have bathrooms as part of garden experience
- What is status of a pedestrian bridge across Lake Washington Blvd?
 - Still on the Master Plan for Arboretum, but lower priority
 - Bridge will be located near exit of parking lot
- Where do unsightly maintenance materials go, such as wheel barrows, poles, ladders?
 - Unheated maintenance building
 - Relocating existing shed on other side of driveway
 - Flat area for plant starts
 - Location of maintenance areas allow head gardener sight lines into courtyard
- What kind of A/V will be in meeting room? Hope for internet/other media
- Does gate block visual access to parking lot and entry from ticket booth?
 - No, a slit across the gate will allow ticket window employees to survey courtyard and parking lot.
- How far south will building go/how many trees will be moved – just one tree
- Is security and crowd control a problem with narrow gate?
 - No, at 9'-wide entry
 - Portland entry is similar

- Space east of ticket booth – are there plans for it? Not decided yet
- Describe courtyard in more detail
 - Public telephone? Parks will explore
 - There will be a drinking fountain in courtyard
 - Wall in entry area is a low wall that defines courtyard
 - Courtyard surface? Ideally, cut stone. Could interim material like gravel be considered? Yes.
 - Entry stone will be reincorporated
 - Can trees be limbed or thinned to open visual access to building and greater site, to get more air and visual appreciation of ravine, to raise expectations? Yes.
- Kitchen space? – In meeting room and maintenance staff space
- Baby changing area in both bathrooms
- Construction schedule
 - Expected to take 6 months – ideally in winter, when garden is closed, for least impact
 - Starting construction this fall difficult to schedule, next fall easy
 - Could close garden one month early/open one month late? Yes.
 - Construction window limited because we can't pour concrete in freezing weather
 - We can start moving trees, or preparing trees to move this fall
- Fundraising
 - Timelines needed to start project and donations
 - Total project cost around \$1 million for the building. Landscape costs TBD. As design is refined, cost will be updated
 - Can projects begin without all funds raised? As long as certain predetermined goals are met; that decision will be made by a campaign committee
 - Can high/medium and low landscape costs be estimated? Not at this time. Courtyard size and materials can be reduced; courtyard size needs to accommodate tour bus groups. Remember: "it's all about the garden"
 - Is there fundraising needed for ongoing maintenance and operations endowment? City staff needs to approve maintenance and operations funding for this new structure but in this case, we're not counting on endowment for long term maintenance.
 - There are \$60 million in projects in total in the Arboretum Master Plan– will need maintenance and operations funding for all of them.
 - Original design plans for the garden provided by Tokyo Municipal government and Council General. It is important for fundraising group to respect and explore Japanese ties in the future / prepare bilingual outreach materials.
 - Campaign committee formed.